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Friedrich Kue	ffner	GOETZ, JOHN S			
Suite 910 317 Madison A	venue		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
New York, NY	7 10017		3725	14	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after StX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire StX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on 26 September 2003. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 8-19 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 8-19 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 8-19 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.				V/k				
## Examiner John S. Gotz John S. Gotz The MAILING DATE of this communication appears an the cover sheet with the correspondence address P riod for Reply A S-HORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. □ Exercision of time may be analysis under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time of the cover of time the provision of 13 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time of the cover of time time to the cover of time time of the cover of time time time time to time time time time time time time time		Application No.	Applicant(s)					
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Art Unit: 3725

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1. Applicant's amendment has been received and entered.
- 2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Specification

3. The specification is objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.71 as not clearly describing the subject matter of the invention. Specifically, reference number 20 is not shown in the drawings.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 8-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burnand in view of Daub, substantially as described in the Office action of paper number 7, mailed on 2/4/03, further in view of Kramer et al. (5,313,685 – hereinafter, Kramer). The amended claims add inner and outer chambers that are in communication with each other. Kramer, in the art of removing liquid from the surface of a moving strip, discloses this configuration, in Figure 2, in at least two ways. First, Kramer discloses what can be reasonably interpreted as an outer chamber (5c) and an inner chamber (3b), which are connected via a longitudinal passage. A second reasonable interpretation is that Kramer discloses a first inner chamber (5c) and inherently (i.e. necessarily) discloses an outer chamber (point of origin of the gas, e.g., a tank) in fluid communication with the inner chamber (5c). Motivation for the configuration shown in Fig. 2 is explicit. The Kramer reference states that such a configuration allows for "an acceleration of the flow to velocities higher than the speed of sound." (column 2, lines 61-62). As Kramer explains,

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greater velocities provide for greater shearing stress, which allows for better lubricant removal

(column 1 line 65 to column 2, line 3). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

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in the art at the time of the invention to add to the device/method taught by Burnand and Daub,

an apparatus with inner and outer chambers in fluid communication, in order to allow for

increased gas velocity and a resulting dryer strip, as explicitly taught by Kramer.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 8-19 have been considered but are moot in

view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to John S. Goetz whose telephone number is 703-308-1411. The

examiner can normally be reached on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 7:00am-5:30pm. If attempts to

reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allen Ostrager can

be reached on 703-308-3136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application

or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding 7.

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-3136.

JSG

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700